



44 | RATED T TEEN
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PERCY
MOONEYHAM
FILARDI

THE BLEEDING EDGE PART ONE

NIGHTWING



B E N D I S



REIS

SHANER

SOOK

MAGUIRE

HUGHES

FABOK

*SUPERMAN'S PAST HAS COME TO
DESTROY HIS FUTURE!*

THE MAN OF STEEL

A SIX-ISSUE LIMITED SERIES
WEEKLY BEGINNING **MAY 30**





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NIGHTWING 44 PERCY • MOONEYHAM • FILARDI



BLUDHAVEN.

SOMETHING
HAPPENED
LAST NIGHT.

NOW PLAYING:
COLT PRESSURE

Subway

N R UPTOWN

NO STANDING
7AM - 10AM
4PM - 7PM

OTHER
TIMES

NO STANDING
EXCEPT TAXI

DZZT

DZZT

AS DICK GRAYSON, I'M A GUY
WHO WILL ALWAYS CHOOSE A
FACE-TO-FACE CONVERSATION
OVER A PHONE CALL OR AN E-MAIL.

SOMETHING I
CAN'T QUITE MAKE
SENSE OF.

AND AS NIGHTWING,
I'M THE KIND OF
HERO WHO PREFERENCES
TO CRACK A JAW
OR SWEEP A LEG...

...OVER CHASING
SOME INVISIBLE
THREAT.

BUT BANK ROBBERS
NO LONGER WEAR SKI
MASKS AND CARRY
SHOTGUNS. THEY
HACK ACCOUNTS.

AND ASSASSINS
DON'T POSITION
THEIR RIFLES ON
ROOFTOPS. THEY
PROGRAM
DRONES.



HOW DO YOU FIGHT?
HOW DO YOU DATE?
HOW DO YOU EVEN
TALK TO ANYONE
ANYMORE?

HOW'S IT
GOING?

Mmmh.



THE RULES KEEP
CHANGING.



SCREEEEEE



YOU
COMING,
BUDDY?

Mmmh.



IT'S HONESTLY
HARD TO KNOW
HOW TO BE ALIVE
RIGHT NOW.



THE
HELL?

ZEEP

ZEEP



CLK

roundie



I THOUGHT I HEARD
SOMETHING THAT SET
MY EVERY NERVE ON
HIGH ALERT.

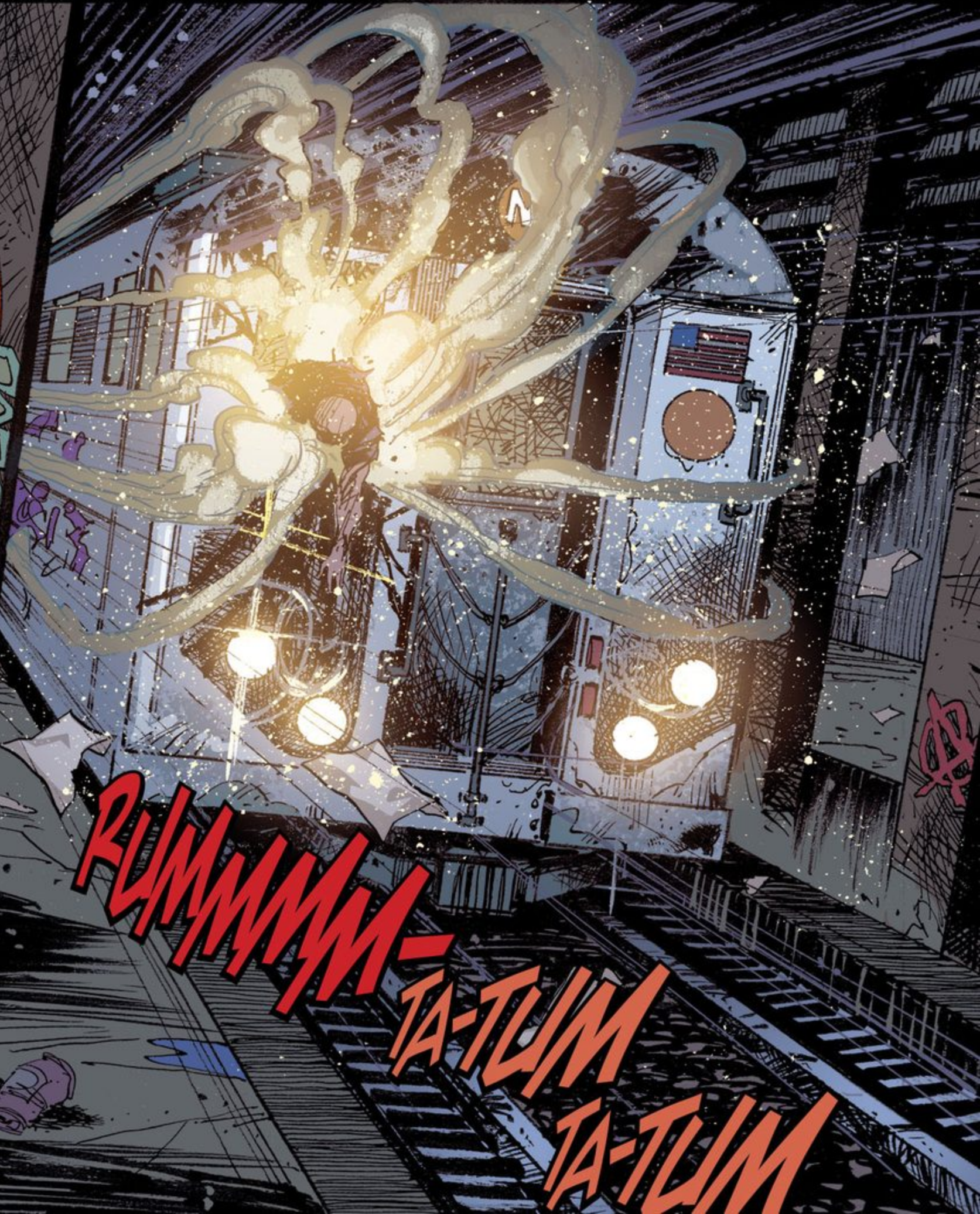


BUT NO ONE ELSE
SEEMED TO NOTICE...

...ALL OF THEM LOST IN THEIR
OWN LITTLE ECOSYSTEMS OF
LIKES AND FAVORITES AND
SMILEY FACE EMOJIS.



THE SECOND
EXPLOSION
WAS HARDER
TO IGNORE.



TECHNOLOGY HAS MADE
CRIME-FIGHTING MORE
DIFFICULT IN SO MANY WAYS,
BUT THE THING THAT
FRUSTRATES ME MOST...



...MIGHT BE THE LOSS OF
PHONE BOOTHS. FOR A
QUICK COSTUME CHANGE,
I'M FORCED TO WEAR THE
SAME TEAR-AWAY PANTS
AS MALE STRIPPERS.



THE BLEEDING EDGE

BENJAMIN PERCY Writer **CHRIS MOONEYHAM** Artist

NICK FILARDI Colors **CARLOS M. MANGUAL** Letters

DECLAN SHALVEY & JORDIE BELLAIRE Cover

JOHN ROMITA JR., DANNY MIKI and TOMEU MOREY Variant Cover

DAVE WIELGOSZ Asst. Editor

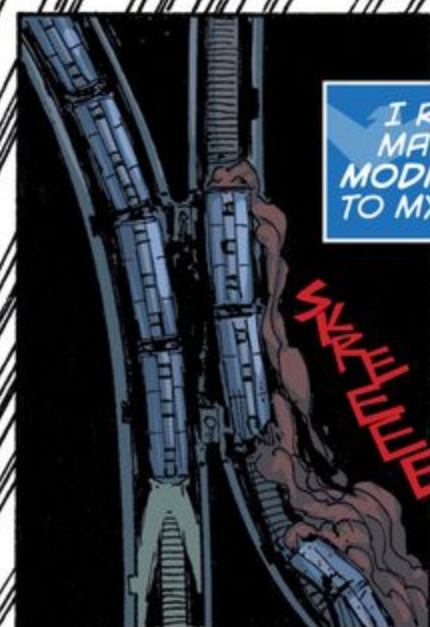
KATIE KUBERT Editor

JAMIE S. RICH Group Editor

PART 1



NIGHTWING CREATED BY **MARV WOLFGAN & GEORGE PÉREZ**



**GRAYSON'S PAD.
THE NEXT DAY...**

SORRY
IF I *ENJOY*
KICKING BUTT
AND HELPING
PEOPLE.

DON'T BE.
I LOVE THAT
ABOUT YOU. BUT
YOU KNOW WHAT
WEIRDS ME OUT
MORE THAN
ANYTHING?

WHAT?

THAT YOU
USE A *LANDLINE*.
DO YOU HAVE AN *AOL*
ACCOUNT, TOO? ARE
YOU ACTUALLY SEVENTY
YEARS OLD, DICK
GRAYSON?

SEVENTY-EIGHT,
ACTUALLY. AND YET
YOU'RE THE ONE WITH
THE OLD LADY NAME,
BARBARA.

THE PHONE
COMPANY OFFERED
ME A GOOD DEAL.
AND--I DON'T KNOW--
I *LIKE* HAVING A
DIAL TONE.

THE CLOCK TOWER.

UM,
WHY?

THIS IS CHEESY,
BUT IT WAS ALWAYS
SOMETHING STEADY IN MY
LIFE. WHEN I WAS A KID, EVEN
THOUGH WE WERE MOVING
CONSTANTLY, I COULD PICK
UP THE PHONE ANYWHERE
AND HEAR THAT SAME
SOUND.

FINE. BE
ALL RETRO. HOW
ABOUT YOU MAKE ME
A MIXTAPE OF YOUR
FAVORITE *NINETIES*
BOY BANDS WHILE
YOU'RE AT IT?

I TOTALLY
WILL. BUT IN ALL
SERIOUSNESS...
DO YOU HAVE ANY
THOUGHTS ON
THE THING?

THE
THING?

THE
SUBWAY THING.
THE EXPLODING
PHONES
THING.



"ALL RIGHT. GOTTA GO.
CLIENT'S WAITING."

"I'M SO JEALOUS. I HOPE
IT'S AN OLD LADY WITH
BAD BREATH. NAMED
BAARRRBARA."

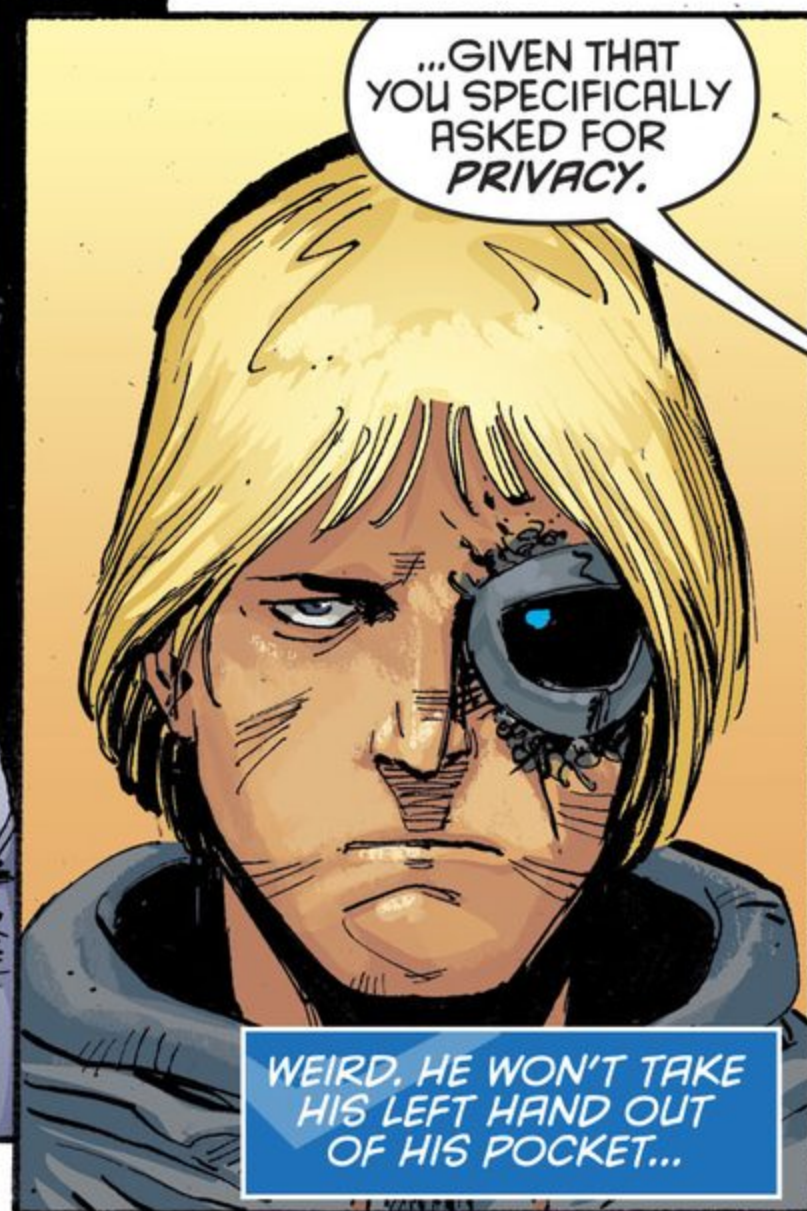
BLUDHAVEN SALVAGE.
LATER...





MR. GRAYSON, THEN? YOU CAME HIGHLY RECOMMENDED AS A PERSONAL TRAINER, BUT I'LL ADMIT...THIS ISN'T WHAT I WAS EXPECTING.

THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE A GOOD SPOT...



...GIVEN THAT YOU SPECIFICALLY ASKED FOR **PRIVACY**.

WEIRD. HE WON'T TAKE HIS LEFT HAND OUT OF HIS POCKET...



... BUT I LIKE EVERYTHING TO BE OUT IN THE OPEN.

BESIDES, WHY GO TO A FANCY GYM WHEN EVERY THING WE NEED IS RIGHT HERE?

I PREFER **FUNCTIONAL** WORKOUTS TO ALL THE GOOFY MACHINES--KNOW WHAT I MEAN?

SO HEY, I ALWAYS LIKE TO ASK MY CLIENTS WHAT THEIR GOALS ARE BEFORE WE GET STARTED.



GOALS? I... WANT TO BE STRONG.

BUT **WHY** DO YOU WANT TO GET STRONG?



BECAUSE I **HATE** BEING WEAK.

DO YOU MIND ME ASKING WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?



LET'S JUST SAY I WAS **BROKEN**, BUT I'M ON MY WAY TO GETTING **FIXED**.

I'VE DONE WHAT I CAN TO REMEDY MY... FRAILTIES ON MY OWN. I COULD USE **YOUR HELP** WITH THE REST.

HELP'S WHAT I DO, FRIEND.

GRAYSON'S HOOD.
LATER...

HERE YOU GO, DICK--FOOT-LONG EGG-AND-CHEESE SANDWICH. **EXTRA EGGS. EXTRA CHEESE.**

ALWAYS MY HUNGRIEST CUSTOMER.



THANKS, STOTT. I WORK OUT LIKE A HORSE, SO I CAN EAT LIKE A PIG.

WHAT'S WITH THE HIGH-TECH **WATCH**? YOU DON'T STRIKE ME AS THE KIND OF GUY WHO WANTS TO COUNT HIS STEPS OR GET AN ALERT EVERY TIME SOMEBODY UPLOADS A PHOTO OF A KITTEN ON **SOCIAL MEDIA**.



NOT A WATCH. IT'S A **CONTROLLER**.

I DON'T FOLLOW.



MY SHOP, IT'S A LITTLE LIKE BLÜDHAVEN, YEAH? TOO DIRTY, TOO OLD, TOO BROKEN.



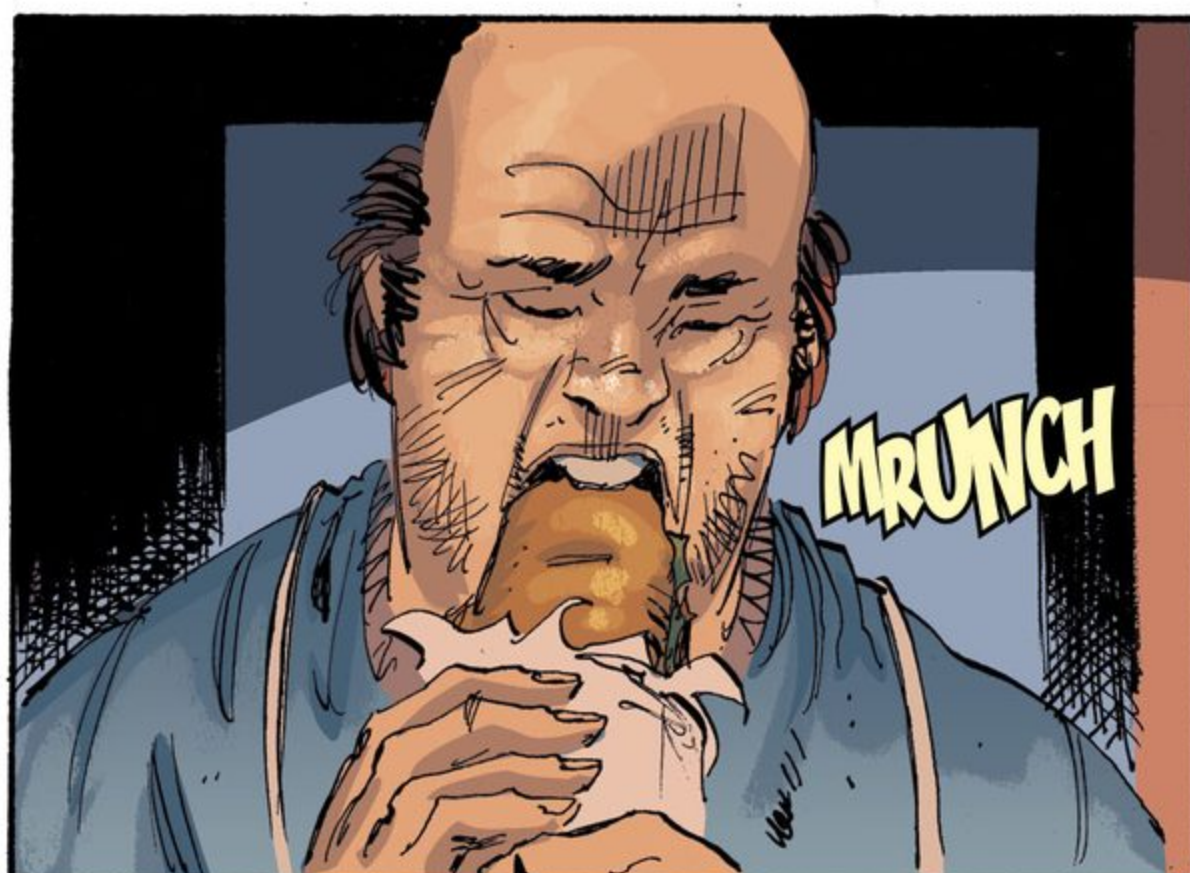
BUT CHECK THIS OUT.



SEE? SEE! LIKE MAGIC.

WHAT THE--







HERE'S THE THING
ABOUT BATMAN.
BEYOND HIS GENIUS,
BEYOND HIS GADGETS,
BEYOND HIS WILL
AND STRENGTH...

...THE THING THAT
ALWAYS IMPRESSED
ME MOST ABOUT
HIM IS...YOU NEVER
SEE HIM.

YOU TURN
AROUND, AND
HE'S THERE. YOU
TURN AROUND
AGAIN, AND
HE'S GONE.

WHEREAS ALL THE REST
OF US HAVE OUR BUTTS
HANGING OUT IN A
TRASH-STINKING ALLEY
WHILE WE YANK ON
OUR TIGHTS.

I COULD REALLY USE
A PHONE BOOTH
RIGHT ABOUT NOW.
OR MY STRIPPER
PANTS.



CALL CAME IN. FEMALE VOICE, AT FIRST PRESENTED TO BE THE GIRLFRIEND, BUT COULD HAVE BEEN SCRAMBLED. ALL IN A PANIC. CLAIMING SHE WAS BEING HELD HOSTAGE...



...HE WAS GOING TO KILL HER, SHE SAID...



...HE HAD A KNIFE, SHE SAID...



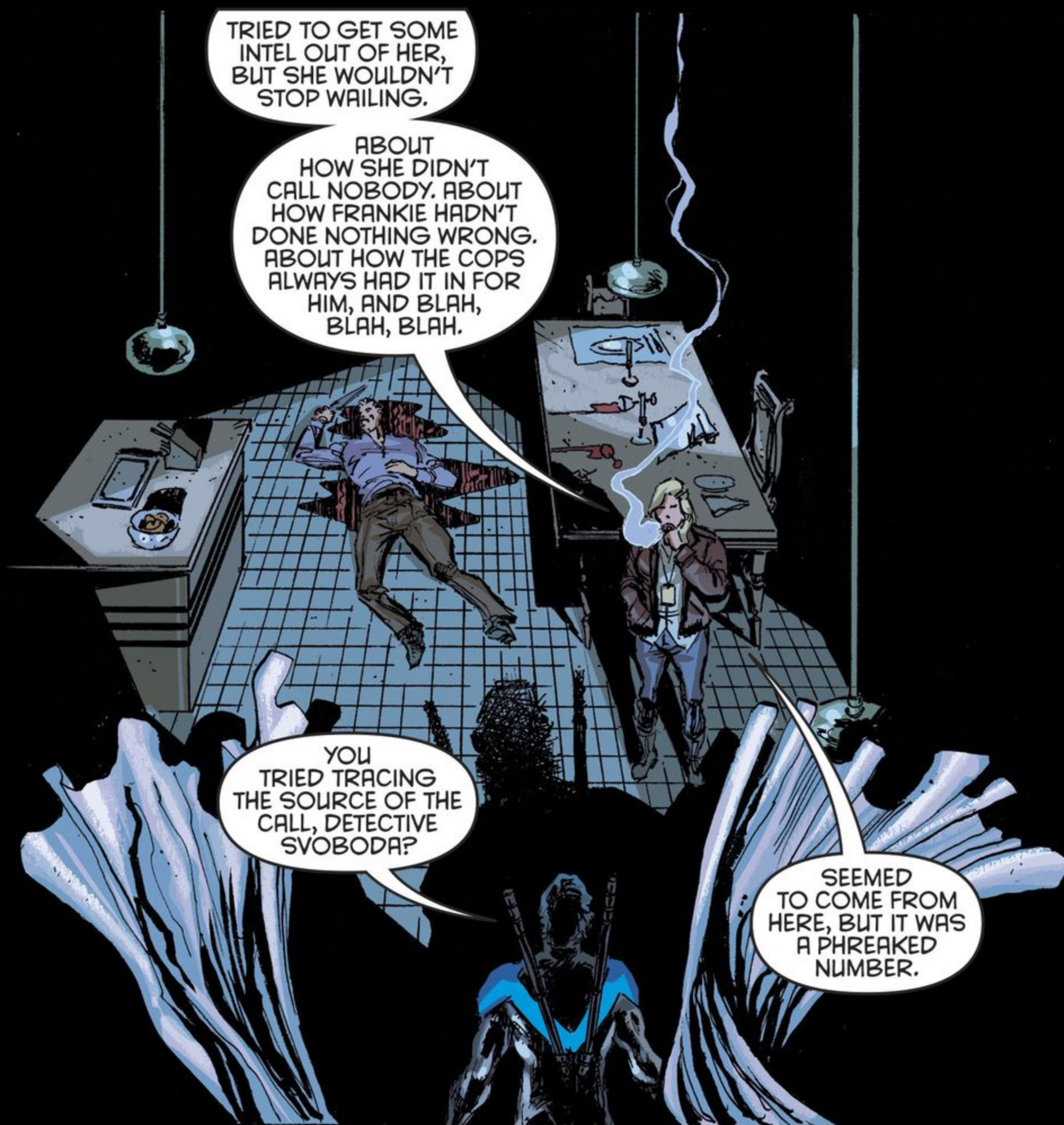
...OUR GUYS KICKED DOWN THE DOOR, LET HIM HAVE IT.

YOU GOT TWO MINUTES, NIGHTWING. THEN I NEED YOU TO GET THE HELL OUT OF MY CRIME SCENE.

HOW'S THE GIRLFRIEND?

SWISH

SHE GOT CLIPPED, BUT SHE'S OKAY. *PHYSICALLY*, I MEAN. HOSPITAL'S STITCHING HER UP NOW.



TRIED TO GET SOME
INTEL OUT OF HER,
BUT SHE WOULDN'T
STOP WAILING.

ABOUT
HOW SHE DIDN'T
CALL NOBODY. ABOUT
HOW FRANKIE HADN'T
DONE NOTHING WRONG.
ABOUT HOW THE COPS
ALWAYS HAD IT IN FOR
HIM, AND BLAH,
BLAH, BLAH.

YOU
TRIED TRACING
THE SOURCE OF THE
CALL, DETECTIVE
SVOBODA?

SEEMED
TO COME FROM
HERE, BUT IT WAS
A PHREAKED
NUMBER.



HE GOT
SWATTED.

NO KIDDING.
THANKS, *WORLD'S
GREATEST
DETECTIVE.*

THAT'S
THE OTHER
GUY.

I KNOW.
I WAS BEING
SARCASTIC. BECAUSE
I DON'T LIKE YOU AND
YOU'RE A PAIN
IN MY--



HAVE YOU
EVER BY CHANCE
MET *HARVEY
BULLOCK*...?

...I REALLY
WANT TO SET YOU
TWO UP ON A DATE.
I THINK YOU'D GET
ALONG FAMOUSLY.



SO THIS GUY IS ONE
OF THE FALCONE
LIEUTENANTS...

ONCE
AGAIN, *WORLD'S
GREATEST DETECTIVE*
TELLS ME WHAT I
ALREADY KNOW.



BUT THIS
DOESN'T *FEEL*
LIKE A MOB
HIT.

WHO KNOWS
WHAT A MOB HIT IS
ANYMORE? NOT LIKE
THEY'RE STILL USING
TOMMY GUNS AND
PIANO WIRES.



ANYWAY, BOO-HOO. BLÜDHAVEN'S BETTER OFF WITHOUT HIM.

THE CALLER SAID FRANKIE HAD A KNIFE. AND FRANKIE HAD A KNIFE.

YEAH, SO?



THAT MEANS WHO-EVER CALLED THIS IN KNEW WHAT WAS HAPPENING *INSIDE* THIS APARTMENT.

DESPITE THE CURTAINS BEING *SHUT*.



ALL YOU WANT IS FAVORS. YOU STANDING HERE AND TALKING TO ME IS A FREAKING FAVOR. YOUR TWO MINUTES ARE OFFICIALLY UP.

DO ME A FAVOR?



I'M LEAVING. BUT FIRST...



...CAN I BORROW THIS?



DICK GRAYSON'S PAD.

THIS STUPID THING--THE PHANTASM--IS OBNOXIOUSLY SEAMLESS, SCREWLESS.

I SHOULD PROBABLY--NO, DEFINITELY--TAKE IT TO THE BATCAVE FOR ANALYSIS.



BUT I'M THE "WORLD'S GREATEST DETECTIVE."

I BET I CAN GET THE GENIE OUT OF THE LAMP ON MY OWN.

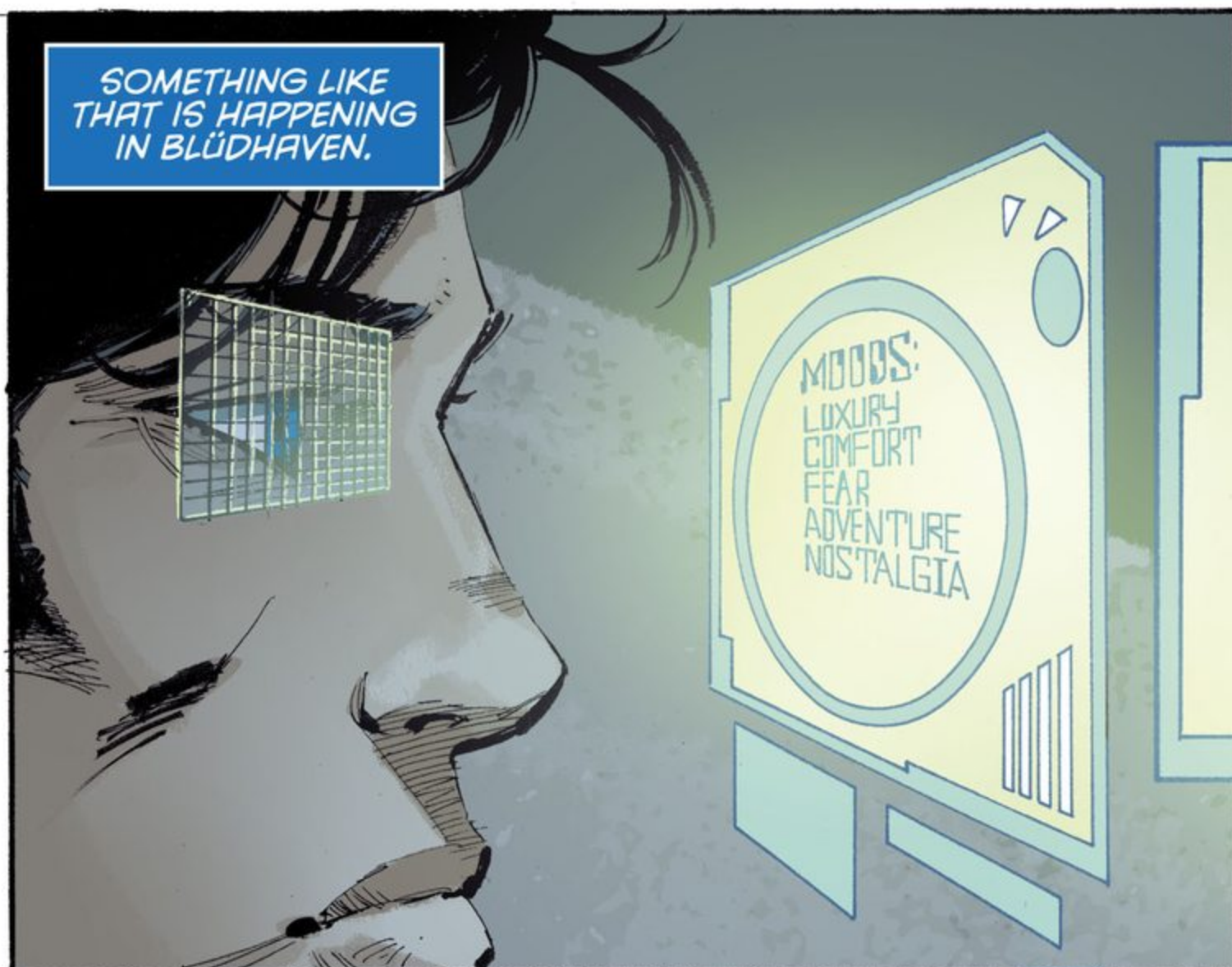


YOU KNOW THAT MOMENT... WHEN YOUR PHONE STARTS TO GLITCH OR YOUR COMPUTER MAKES THAT CARPENTER ANT SOUND...



...WHEN YOU KNOW SOMETHING BAD IS HAPPENING...

...BUT YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS?

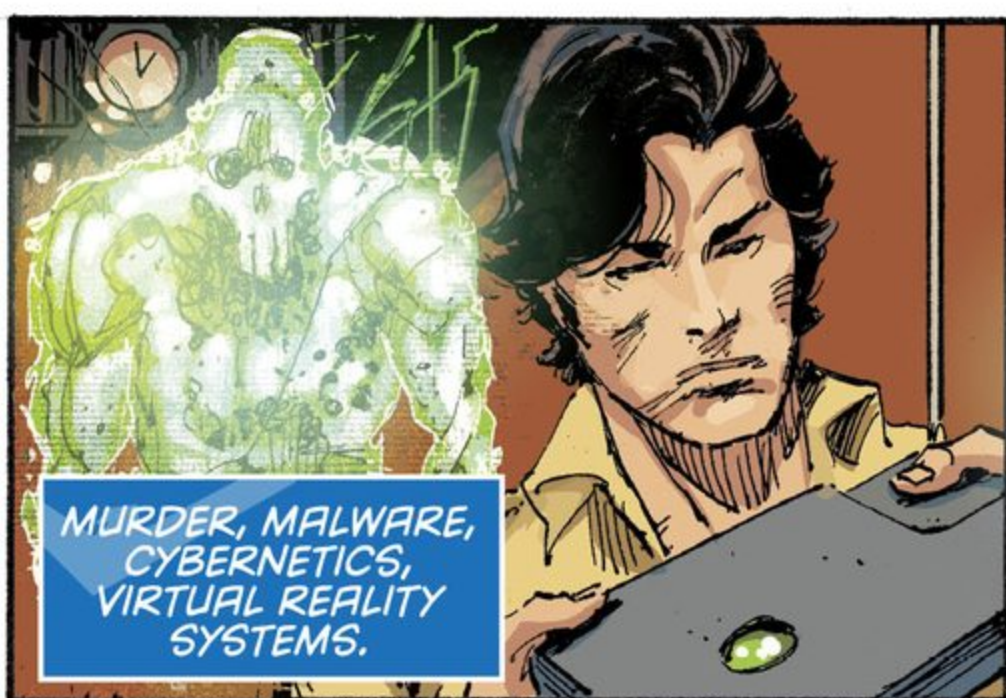
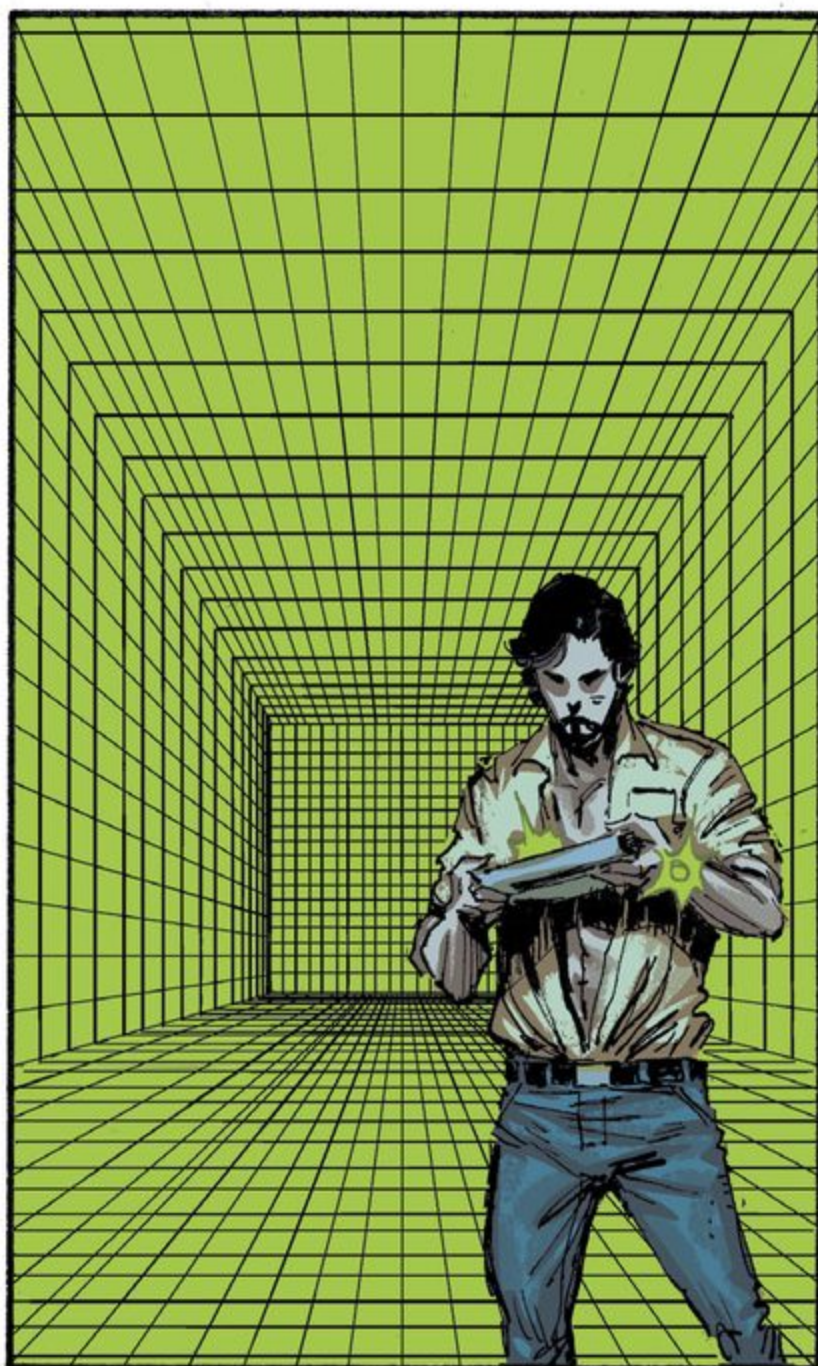


SOMETHING LIKE THAT IS HAPPENING IN BLÜDHAVEN.



SOMETHING I CAN'T QUITE MAKE SENSE OF.

BLEEP





next: INVISIBLE
MONSTERS



SPECIAL SNEAK PREVIEW

From the pages of
DARK NIGHTS: METAL

**RYAN
SOOK
CARY
NORD
STEVE
ORLANDO**

**DEFENDERS
OF THE
WEIRD!**

**THE
UNEXPECTED**

A new monthly series
JUNE



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Heaven's Undercarriage Bar.
Mammoth City.
Dirty Jersey.
Now.

KRAK

I SAID,
TAKE A
SEAT!

YOU
JUST HAD
TO STEP UP,
CROC.

I COULD
BE DRINKING
MY WAY TO BAD
DECISIONS.

YER
SKIN'S GLOWIN'
AGAIN, JANET. THAT
THE SIXTH FIGHT
THIS MONTH?
SEVENTH?

WHO'S
COUNTING?

SURPRISED YA EVEN PUT
DOWN YER BEER. FREAKS'RE
COMIN' OUTTA THE WOOD-
WORK FOR YA.

YEAH?
WHAT'S THAT
MAKE ME,
PAT?

LOYAL
CUSTOMER
WITH AN EMPTY
GLASS. FILL UP?

YEAH. ONE
MORE DOWN...



...I FIGHT TO LIVE. AND I'M UNDEFEATED.

GOOD. IF THE FIGHTS COME TO YOU, THERE'S NO NEED TO PICK THEM.

WORD'S GOTTEN AROUND. THERE'S ALWAYS A NEW SCUMBAG TO CHALLENGE THE FIREBRAND.

STAYING ALIVE MEANS GOING AGAINST EVERYTHING I USED TO STAND FOR. SO IN BETWEEN FIGHTS? I WORK.

GOTHAM E.M.S. WON'T TAKE ME BACK. BUT THE LOCAL V.A. HOSPITAL CAN'T AFFORD TO TURN DOWN FREE HELP.

IT'S THE ONLY TIME I FEEL LIKE MY OLD SELF.

CIVIL SOLUTIONS, MY DAD, EVERYONE IS HUNTING ME, SO I KEEP MY HEAD DOWN.

MY BROTHER WANTS TO HELP, BUT MY LIFE IS TOO DANGEROUS BY DEFINITION.

HEY! RONAN! THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU'D MAKE BREAKFAST THIS MORNING?

I...TOTALLY FORGOT, JOY. I'M SORRY.

THE PUNISHMENT IS DIRE! YOU FINALLY TAKE ME TO DINNER AND I WOO YOU WITH IMPRESSIVE-YET-ELEMENTARY-LEVEL FRENCH.

UNTIL THEN?

YOUR ROUNDS, RONAN. FIRST ONE ASKED FOR YOU BY NAME. WEIRD GUY, SMELLED LIKE BURNT HERBS.

...I'M NOT ON THE PAYROLL. I USE AN ALIAS.

FIREBRAND

NO ONE HERE KNOWS MY FIGHTING NAME





...I WANT
YOUR HEART!

DC COMICS PROUDLY PRESENTS:

THE UNEXPECTED

CALL OF THE UNKNOWN: Part One - PUNCH FIRST

Ryan Sook, Cary Nord and Steve Orlando - Storytellers Mick Gray and Wade von Grawbadger - Inks

FCO Plascencia - Colors Carlos M. Mangual - Letters Ryan Sook - Cover

Dave Wielgosz - Assistant Editor Katie Kubert - Editor Jamie S. Rich - Group Editor

TO BE CONTINUED IN

THE UNEXPECTED #1

ON SALE IN JUNE





**READ
THEM
ALL!**

**DAMAGE
THE
SILENCER**

SIDEWAYS

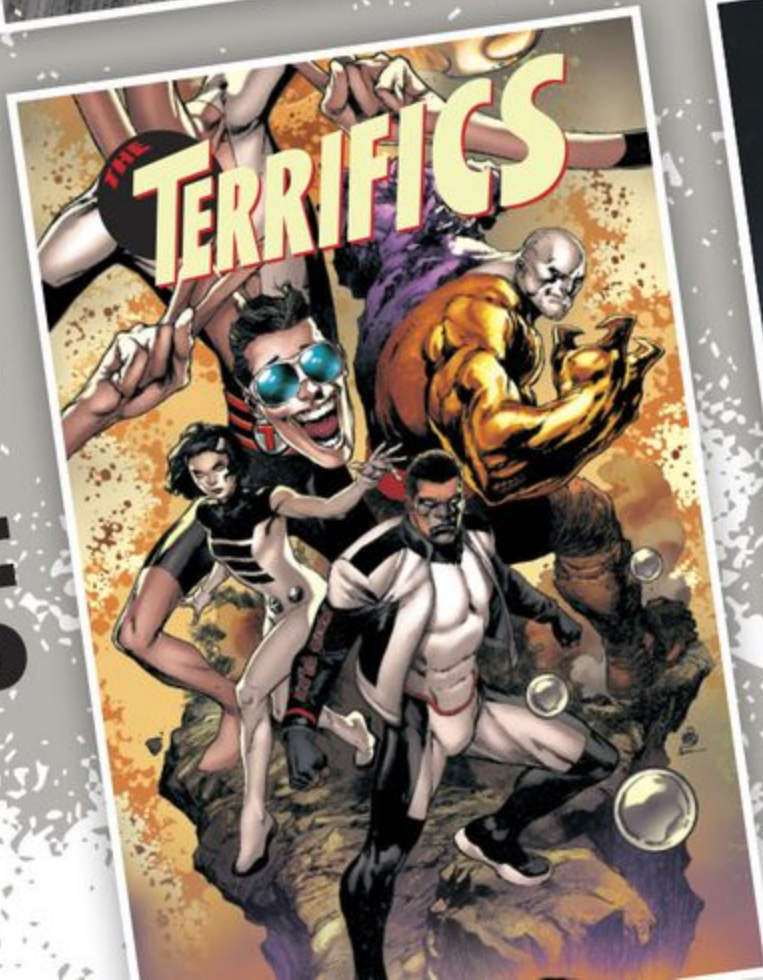
**THE
TERRIFICS**

**THE
IMMORTAL
MEN**

**THE CURSE
OF BRIMSTONE**

**NEW
CHALLENGERS**

**THE
UNEXPECTED**



SUMMER HEAT

Three superstar creative teams give readers exclusive and original previews of DC Comics' biggest events

If you miss out on DC NATION #0, don't say we didn't warn you.

With three original stories, each teasing a different major event from DC's most bombastic creative teams, make sure you grab your copy before your local comic shop sells out.

Need more of a reason to check out these events? Let's see if writers Brian Michael Bendis, Scott Snyder and Tom King can persuade you.



"Our story has the Justice League at the edge of the universe, forced out of desperation to fight in wild new team combinations against not just one, but four galaxy-devouring space giants. We want to show that things this epic can only happen in JUSTICE LEAGUE! I'm really fortunate to get to work with Jorge Jimenez on this story, one of the biggest rising stars in comics." **—SCOTT SNYDER**, Co-Writer, NO JUSTICE



"The Joker finds out mysteriously that Batman's getting married, and he can't take it, and he starts to go insane. This is a close examination of the Joker, falling from insanity to more insanity drawn by Clay Mann—if he's not the best artist in comics, he's on his way." **—TOM KING**, Writer, BATMAN



"Our DC NATION story is a prelude to all things Metropolis. The legendary José Luis García-López and I are going to introduce you to a handful of new characters in and around Clark Kent's life. Some will be friendly and some will not. You're going to get a good sense of what's going on at the *Daily Planet*, and a very big tease to the new threat that has been bubbling just under the surface of Metropolis." **—BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS**, Writer, MAN OF STEEL



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